

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-14 are pending. Claim 1 is amended, and claims 8-14 are added. Claims 1, 13, and 14 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Drawings

It is gratefully appreciated that the Examiner has accepted the drawings.

Claim for Priority

It is gratefully appreciated that the Examiner has recognized the Applicants' claim for foreign priority.

Acknowledgement of Information Disclosure Statement

It is gratefully appreciated that the Examiner has acknowledged the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 12, 2004.

Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,720,952. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, the Applicants are herewith submitting a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on the present application which would extend beyond the expiration of U.S. Patent No. 6,720,952. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' FIG. 5 and 6, in view of Deeran et al. (U.S. 5,594,471). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amendments to Independent Claim 1

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, independent claim 1 has been amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to an apparatus, including *inter alia*

indicia provided on an underside of the panel extension portion indicating functions of a plurality of input keys.

Support for the novel features in independent claim 1 can be seen, for example, in FIG. 4.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Applicants' FIGS. 5 and 6, and Deeran et al.

In contrast to the present invention, and as can be seen in Deeran et al. FIG. 1 and column 3, lines 25-39, this document merely discloses a template overlay disposed over the border touch zone surrounding the display touch zone.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Applicants' FIGS. 5 and 6, and Deeran et al.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Added Independent Claims 13 and 14

Independent claim 13 has been added herein to recite a combination of elements directed to an apparatus, including *inter alia*

wherein said plurality of input keys includes a ten-key numeric input, a cursor movement input, and a plurality of function keys, all of which are disposed on one side of the electronic display screen.

In addition, independent claim 14 has been added herein to recite a combination of elements directed to an apparatus, including *inter alia*

wherein said plurality of input keys are all of which are disposed on one side of the electronic display screen.

Support for the novel combination of elements set forth in each of claim 13 and 14 can be seen, for example, in FIGS. 1-4. With this arrangement, all keys are input keys are easily accessible in one area.

By contrast, as can be seen in Deeran et al. FIG. 1, the various key markings 17 are arranged above, below and on the side of the display touch zone 14.

At least for the reasons explained above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in each of independent claims 13 and 14 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Applicants' FIGS. 5 and 6, and Deeran et al.

Therefore, independent claims 13 and 14 are in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 8-12 have been added to set forth additional novel features of the present invention.

Dependent claims 2-12 are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, as well as for the additional novel limitations set forth therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

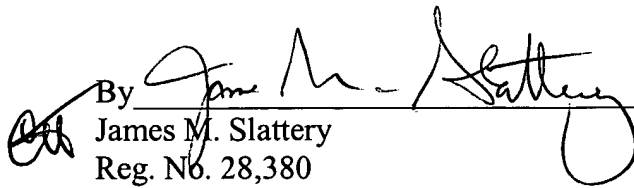
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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